

REMARKS

I. INTRODUCTION

The Office Action mailed on December 22, 2005 and the references cited therein have been carefully studied and, in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application are most respectfully requested. Claims 3-8, 12-18, 21-27, 30-32, and 34-38 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 3-5, 15, 17, 21-27, 30, 32, and 34-38 have been rejected, claims 6-8, 13, 14, 16, 18, and 31 have been objected to, and claim 12 has been allowed. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's recognition that claim 12 contains allowable subject matter. By the current amendment, the specification has been amended, claim 38 has been cancelled, and claims 3, 6, 13, 14, and 27 have been amended, and new claims 39-41 have been added. Thus, claims 3-8, 12-18, 21-27, 30-32, 34-37, and 39-41 are now pending in the current application. It is believed that no new matter has been added by the current amendment. Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 3-5, 15, 17, 21-23, 27, 30, 32, 34, and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,703,180 B1 ("Boroson et al."). Specifically, the Examiner believes that Boroson et al. anticipates the materials claimed in the rejected claims, which recite a metal compound having hydroxyphenylpyridine as a ligand or encompasses a hydroxyphenylpyridine ligand, and which the Examiner believes teaches the metal of the compound to be magnesium. By the current amendment, claim 38 has been cancelled, and claim 3 and 27 have been amended to recite that the organic enhancement layer "consists essentially of" a material having a metal compound with one or more hydroxyphenylpyridine ligands (claim 3) or a material with a hydroxyphenylpyridine ligand (claim 27). Applicants respectfully submit that Boroson et al. does not anticipate the

materials claimed that consist essentially of hydroxyphenylpyridine compound or ligand. Unlike Applicants' claimed materials, the electron transporting layer (ETL) taught by Boroson et al. is doped with a metal compound (see col. 15, lines 33-36). Claims 4, 5, 15, 17, 21-23, 30, 32, and 34, which ultimately depend from currently amended claims, also include the aforementioned limitation.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 have been overcome and should therefore be withdrawn.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 24-26 and 35-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boroson et al.. Specifically, the Examiner believes that it would have been within the level of ordinary skill of a worker in the art to arrive at the combinations of materials for the emissive layer and the ETL based on characteristics such as LUMO or HOMO values of the materials. By the current amendments to claims 3 and 27, claims 24-26 and 35-37, which ultimately depend from these amended claims, include the recitation wherein the claimed materials "consist essentially of" the hydroxyphenylpyridine compound or ligand. Boroson et al. does not teach or suggest such recitation. For the same reasons mentioned above, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 have been overcome and should therefore be withdrawn.

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

The Examiner has indicated that claims 6-8, 13, 14, 16, 18, and 31 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but are patentable if rewritten in independent form. By the current amendment, claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form, and claims 13, 14, 16, and 18 have been amended to depend from claim 6. Claims 7 and 8, also depend from claim 6, and Applicants respectfully submit that the objections have been overcome and should therefore be withdrawn.

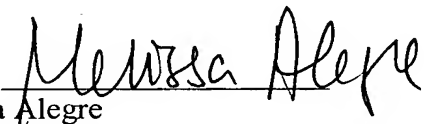
Applicants have added new claims 39-41 and believe no new matter is added with this amendment. The metal recited in claims 39-41 may be aluminum, gallium, zinc, copper, or lead.

V. CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance and request that such action be taken. If for any reason the Examiner believes that prosecution of this application would be advanced by contact with the Applicants' attorney, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
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